

**Amendment to the Claims**

Please cancel Claims 1-9, 11-13, and 16 without prejudice.

Please amend Claims 10, 14, and 15 as follows.

Claims 1-9 (canceled)

1 10. (currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 9, A method for automatically detecting~~  
2 unwanted messages in real time in a system that includes a message server for routing  
3 incoming message files to a directory, the method comprising the steps of:  
4 accessing said directory and for identifying said message files;  
5 locating any of an address-of-origin, subject, or other specified criteria within  
6 each said message file;  
7 identifying whether each said message file should be considered spam;  
8 separating said spam and non-spam message files logically; and  
9 any of physically moving and renaming said message files in a predetermined  
10 fashion;  
11 wherein said accessing step further comprising the steps of:  
12 reading a RecentFileList from a RecentFile; and  
13 loading said RecentFileList into a RecentListArray;  
14 wherein if a BypassFileList is included, reading said BypassFileList into a  
15 BypassArray;  
16 wherein said locating step further comprising the steps of:  
17 creating a NewListArray;  
18 opening said message files;  
19 extracting message addresses of a sender as defined in any of  
20 MailInDirName, AddrLineLocator, and AddrInfoLocator fields;  
21 loading said NewListArray with new message sender addresses and  
22 associated file names;  
23 setting an arrival time for all records in said NewListArray;  
24 combining said NewListArray into said RecentListArray;  
25 marking new records as IsNew = True; and  
26 sorting said RecentListArray by message sender addresses;  
27 wherein said identifying step further comprising the steps of:

28           determining the age of a message sender address based upon a  
29 SecondsThreshold when a message sender address is retrieved from said  
30 RecentListArray;  
31           if said message file is older than said threshold, marking said message file as  
32 IsExpired = True by Seconds Threshold;  
33           determining whether said message sender address occurs more often than a  
34 SourceThreshold allows;  
35           optionally, if yes, examining said message sender address to determine if it is  
36 to be passed anyway because it is identified in said BypassArray; and  
37           marking said message file as IsSpam = True if said message file exceeds  
38 said SourceThreshold, and said SecondThreshold has not timed out, and optionally said  
39 message file is not listed in said BypassArray.

Claims 11-13 (canceled)

1   14. (currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 11.A method for automatically~~  
2 ~~detecting unwanted messages in real time in a system that includes a message server~~  
3 ~~for routing incoming message files to a directory, the method comprising the steps of:~~  
4       receiving a message file at a host system;  
5       routing said message file to said directory;  
6       writing said message file with a prefix and/or suffix that allows it to be identified  
7 as a new message;  
8       identifying all message files in said directory that are spam; and  
9       any of renaming and moving said message files;  
10      wherein said method requiring requires minimum implementation parameters  
11 which comprise:  
12       a path and/or name of a recent file;  
13       a path and/or name of a bypass file;  
14       an incoming mail directory;  
15       a directory and/or file name suffix for non-spam mail;  
16       a directory and/or file name suffix for spam mail;  
17       a number of seconds to accumulate information before clearing it;  
18       a number of occurrences of any one address to allow within a value; and  
19       a string for which to search within each file processed to determine if said  
20 string should contain an address; wherein only a first occurrence of a locator within a file  
21 is evaluated.

1 15. (currently amended) ~~The method of Claim 11.~~ A method for automatically  
2 detecting unwanted messages in real time in a system that includes a message server  
3 for routing incoming message files to a directory, the method comprising the steps of:  
4 receiving a message file at a host system;  
5 routing said message file to said directory;  
6 writing said message file with a prefix and/or suffix that allows it to be identified  
7 as a new message;  
8 identifying all message files in said directory that are spam; and  
9 any of renaming and moving said message files;  
10 said method implementation parameters optionally comprising:  
11 partial file names to be excluded from processing; wherein any file including a  
12 specific string specified is excluded from processing;  
13 partial file names to be included in processing; wherein only files including a  
14 string specified are processed;  
15 a suffix for processed non-spam files (SetRenameSuffix); only optional if  
16 SetDestinationDirName is defined[.];  
17 a destination directory path for non-spam files;  
18 a suffix for processed spam files;  
19 a destination directory path for spam files; and  
20 a string defining what should be considered an address within a line  
21 previously identified.

Claim 16 (canceled)